

# **BUDGET/FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

## **MINUTES**

**Wednesday, September 30, 2009**

**Oliver Administration Building**

### **Present**

**Subcommittee: William O'Dell (Chair), Paul Brule and Karen Lynch**

**School Committee, Administration and Staff: Marjorie McBride, Paul Silva, Edward Mara, Melinda Thies, Jane Correia and George Simmons**

**Guest: Stewart Gaskell**

**Bill O'Dell called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.**

### **Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION: Karen Lynch motioned to approve the minutes to the August 24, 2009 meeting; Paul Brule seconded; the motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0.**

### **Indoor Gym Space**

**Karen Lynch requested discussion on the feelings of Administration**

about the use of gym space by youth groups, considering the issues that arose last year; Stewart Gaskell was present to represent Bristol Youth Soccer. Ed Mara said last year we were displeased with the mistreatment of our facilities by certain youth groups that play outdoor sports indoors, but we want to be cooperative with the community. Bristol Youth Soccer had switched to using indoor soccer balls and except for the empty nip bottles (not attributed to BYSA) they were no problem. As long as the teams adhere strictly to the rules set forth (which are posted on School Dude), Ed will allow continued use of the facilities.

George Simmons stated he has addressed the problem with each group and some have not been allowed back. Marj McBride asked about the damage to the Andrews floor; George is unsure if that was caused by a youth group; there has been no damage this year. Marj has no problem with groups using our facilities as long as they understand that if there is damage, they will not be allowed back. Karen suggested that older kids use space with cinder blocks. Paul Silva stated that accidents happen, and as long as the damage is repaired, he has no problem.

In response to Melinda, George explained that during the week, the facilities are monitored by the night custodians on duty; on the weekends, we charge the groups for a custodian. Stewart Gaskell thanked Karen for addressing this with the Committee; BYSA has a certificate of liability of insurance for up to \$300,000 in damages; 260

kids participate in their indoor program, 60% are Bristol or Warren residents. He is grateful for the opportunity to use our facilities and hopes this can continue because the next closest facilities are Seekonk or Somerset at a cost of \$100 per hour per field.

Stewart left the meeting at 6:50 PM.

### **Athletic Field Concept Master Plan**

The Committee reviewed the bids received; Paul Brule said all four companies are good; all agreed to disregard the two highest bidders, leaving Maguire and Gifford. It was unclear exactly what was covered in each bid and if there will be additional charges not mentioned.

It was decided to hold a special Budget Subcommittee meeting on Monday, October 5, at 7:00 PM in the Colt Andrews Conference Room with Maguire and Gifford to get a clearer understanding of their bids.

Some questions that will be asked are: 1) Are there any additions? 2) Are there any hidden costs? 3) Is this a complete bid? George Gifford will be asked if the \$25,000 is on top of the \$18,000 already paid to him.

## **RISE Projects**

**The Committee reviewed a more detailed accounting of the EMS costs by building that was submitted by RISE. George recommended we first address the parts of the high school that have never been renovated —Buildings A, B, D, E, F and G, at a cost of \$423,829. C, H and M are not as much of a priority, but do need to be done eventually. Paul Brule said he did not like the tactic used; George explained that part of the disconnect was due to his own five-week absence.**

**Marj mentioned that this work is not reimbursable and she is worried about some of the things on our plate. Bill O'Dell argued that the high school is a real problem. George pointed out that although there is no kick back from National Grid, there will be a cost savings. In response to Paul Brule, George said G Building could be eliminated, it operates differently from the other rooms; our first priority is the comfort of the students and teachers. Marj reminded the committee that the card readers for the lunch program were installed over a number of years. George commented that we have to keep going, but the boilers can be put on the back burner.**

**Before any further discussion on the heating controls the Committee addressed the lighting at Mt. Hope. George explained that all the bulbs in the building are the outdated T12 type which will no longer be manufactured by the end of next year. The cost for the lighting upgrade is \$123,580. Ed added we receive a 30% rebate if work is**

completed by the end of this year; Marj pointed out we make back our costs in three years.

**Windows:** Karen Lynch reported for Denise Arsenault that there are broken and cracked windows at the high school and some with BB holes. George stated that all the windows have been repaired but will look into the BB holes, which must be recent. Jane said the five year plan addresses the windows. George mentioned that the caulking in the older windows contains asbestos and cannot be replaced while the students are in school; as long as they are in the asset protection plan we are OK.

Melinda asked if it was sensible to upgrade the heating and not the windows. It was decided it would be wise to do the windows and heat sensors in five or six buildings and upgrade the lighting throughout the school if it all can be done for under \$1M. Paul Brule suggested the bid specs be broken down by building, we go out to bid for the windows, and the bidders should not know what our budget is.

**MOTION:** Paul Brule motioned to go out to bid for window replacement at Mt. Hope High School with a breakdown by building. Karen Lynch seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

**MOTION:** Paul Brule motioned to recommend to the full Committee that we upgrade the lighting at Mt. Hope High School. Karen Lynch seconded; the motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

**MOTION:** Paul Brule motioned to recommend to the full Committee that we replace the heating controls in Buildings A, B, D, E and F at Mt. Hope High School for a cost of \$336,396. Karen Lynch seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

George mentioned we saved \$78,000 last year at the high school alone for using gas instead of oil.

Jane stated that \$25,000 has been earmarked for each of the next three years to renovate the bathrooms at Mt. Hope High School.

### **Guiteras Field**

George reported on the rectifications made to Guiteras field that were brought up by baseball coach Eli Garcia. All fabric fencing has been removed; Eli and the parents will paint the poles; George will let Eli know that the fencing company will paint the back stop fabric.

The issue of mud in front of the dugout is more of a problem—if we dig it out, the water will go inside the dugout; this having been a season with excessive amounts of rain, it was decided to wait a little longer to see what develops.

George will look into a spigot for water, however, the teams will have to be diligent about putting it away as the football teams do. Karen

said the teams would like to wet down the infield and she asked that the landscaper put down the correct infield mix. George explained we are bound by contract with the mix.

### **Gate Receipts**

Jane reported a gate receipts balance of \$67,856; gate receipts pay for the port-a-johns and wellness center staff stipends. At one time, it was planned to use gate receipts for the press box, but it was later decided by the Committee to tie the press box into the field project; but the drainage must be addressed first.

### **Colt Site Work Fund Management**

George reported the bids are due in by Friday at 2:00 PM. DaPonte is to give him a price on the privit hedge at Andrews; Ed forwarded the required letter to HDC.

George left the meeting at 7:55 PM.

### **FY 2009 Budget**

Jane reported the audit is near the end and has gone very well.

Jane explained that the State feels it needs to go with RIMIC to save money and they want us to join them but we would rather not. GHGRI has gotten so large they are going to merge with the Interlocal Trust;

**we received \$ 600,000 in dividends and this affiliation gives us a great deal of purchasing power. The next purchase will be with the West Bay Collaborative, so we will get a good price from Blue Cross.**

## **FY 2010**

**The request by Performing Arts for stipend increases will be voted on at the October meeting; with increases, the stipend will total \$9,000; because of the health plan re-design and the 18% co-pay, we have a savings right now. Marj commented that this will trigger others to request an increase in stipend and it will go over the \$9,000. Jane already anticipated this and brought in the class advisors.**

## **NSBA National Affiliation**

**Upon review of the benefits to a National Affiliation with NSBA, it was agreed that it was not worth the \$3,188.**

## **Adjournment**

**MOTION: At 8:05 PM Paul Brule motioned to adjourn. Karen Lynch seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**



**/ca**